

REMARKS

Claims pending in the application upon entry of the foregoing amendments are 3-11, 14, 15 and 38-44. Other than claims 14-15, which were indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form, and claims 38-40, which were allowed, the other previously pending claims now depend from such allowed or allowable claims. Newly presented claims 41-44 are based on the allowed or allowable claims, as discussed hereinafter.

Applicants have amended the Abstract of the Disclosure to include a reference to the subject matter of the allowable claims, e.g., claims 13-15.

Original claims 1, 2, 12, 13 and 16-37 have been canceled in view of Japanese Patent Publication 09-328444, which was cited by the Examiner in charge of previously copending patent applications, Serial Nos. 10/436,664 filed 5/13/2003 (Method of Stabilizing Trichloroethane During Production), 10/648,976, filed 8/27/2003 (Method of Stabilizing Tetrachloroethylene During Production), and 10/648,972 filed 8/27/2003 (Stabilized Trichloroethane), all of which previously copending applications are now abandoned.

Copending applications 10/436,664 and 10/648,976 were cited in the Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) for the above-captioned patent application. For completeness, Applicants are filing with this response a Supplemental IDS, which includes the aforementioned Japanese Patent Publication and documents cited by Applicants in the abandoned copending patent applications.

Claim 3 has been amended to be a method claim and to depend from original allowed method claim 40.

Claims 4-11 have been amended to be method claims. Such claims depend directly or indirectly from claim 3 and also depend indirectly from allowed method claim 40.

Claim 14 has been amended to depend from newly presented claim 44 (allowable claim 13 presented in independent form). As a consequence, claim 15 also now depends indirectly from claim 44.

Claims 15 and allowed claims 38-40 remain unchanged.

Newly presented claims 41-44 are based on disclosures found in the specification and the original claims, and do not contain new matter. Specifically, newly presented claim 41 is based on original claims 38, 40 and 4 but with the added recital that the polychloroethylene contains less than 50 ppm of stable free radical stabilizer. This amount of free radical stabilizer is found in line 6 of paragraph [0023] on page 8 of the specification.

Newly presented claim 42 is based on original claims 2 and 5. Newly presented claim 43 is based on the disclosure found in line 7 of paragraph [0023] on page 8 of the specification.

Newly presented claim 44 is original allowable dependent claim 13 that, as suggested in the Office Action, has been resubmitted in independent form.

REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. 103 (a)

Claims 1-12 and 16-37 have been rejected as unpatentable over Minagawa et al (U.S. 4,416,797) in view of Amato et al (U.S. 6,040,488) under 35 U.S.C. 103 (a). Additionally, claims 1, 2, 16 and 27 have been rejected as unpatentable over Uhrhan et al (U.S. 4,088,629) under 35 U.S.C. 103 (a). This rejection is respectfully traversed with respect to all of the claims now pending in the application.

Claims 1, 2, 12, 13 and 16-37 have been canceled. Claim 3 has been amended to depend from allowed method claim 40. Claims 4-11 have been amended to be method claims that also indirectly depend from allowed method claim 40.

Allowable Claim 13 has been rewritten as independent claim 44. Original claims 14 and 15 now depend directly or indirectly from claim 44.

Newly presented method claims 41-43 are based on (among others) allowed method claim 38 and disclosures found in the specification.

Accordingly, the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 103 (a) are moot and no longer apply to the claims now pending in the application for the reason that all of the pending claims have either been allowed, or indicated as allowable, or depend indirectly from such allowed or allowable claims. Withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 103 (a) and allowance of all of the pending claims are therefore respectfully requested.

OBJECTED AND ALLOWED CLAIMS

Claims 13-15 have been objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. The Examiner has indicated that such claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Claim 13 has

been rewritten as independent claim 44, and claim 14 has been amended to depend from claim 44. Claim 15, which depends from claim 14, does not require any amendment to change the claim from which it depends. Reconsideration and allowance of claims 14, 15 and 44 are respectfully requested.

Claims 38-40 have been allowed. Original claims 3-11 have been amended to dependent directly or indirectly from claim 40 and therefore should also now be allowable. Consideration and allowance of claims 3-11 in addition to claims 38-40 are respectfully requested.

New Claim 41 is based on allowed claim 38 with the added features of specifying the amount and type of stable free radical group, which features, as noted previously, are found in the original claims and specification (page 8). Claim 42 is based on original claim 5, and claim 43 is based on the disclosure that is found on line 7 of paragraph [0023] on page 8 of the specification. Accordingly, claims 41-43 are allowable also. Consideration and allowance of claims 41-43 are respectfully requested.

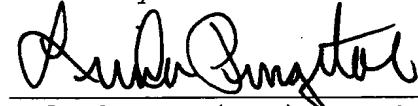
In view of all of the above amendments, the Examiner's allowance of claims 38-40 and the indicated allowability of claims 13-15 (subject to resolution of the objection due to their being dependent upon a rejected base claim), it is evident that all of the pending claims; namely, claims 3-11, 14, 15 and 38-44 are now allowable. Reconsideration and early allowance of such pending claims are respectfully requested.

It is acknowledged that the Ciba Product Bulletins cited on Form 1449 inadvertently omitted the month and year of their publication. However, those dates are found on the copies of the Product Bulletins that accompanied the filing of the original Form 1449. In order for the record to be complete, a Supplemental IDS citing those Product Bulletins with the month and year of their publication noted on the Form 1449 is submitted contemporaneously

with the filing of this amendment. In addition, the Supplemental IDS also lists the documents cited by Applicants in the now abandoned copending applications listed on the original Form 1449, i.e., citations AR and AS, and abandoned copending application Serial Number 10/648,972 that was referred to above.

Respectfully submitted,

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Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
February 21, 2006